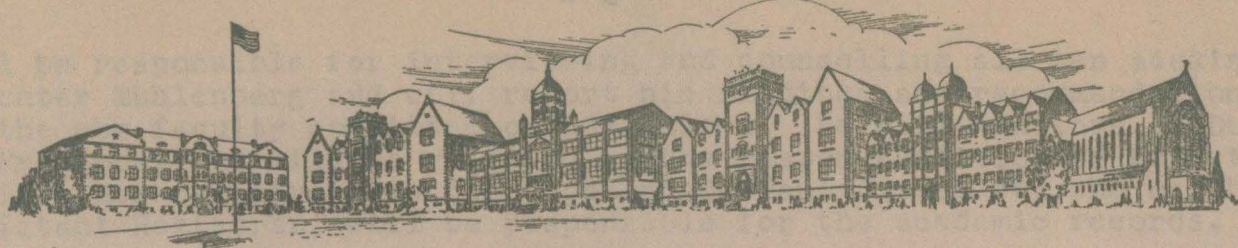


from



MUHLENBERG COLLEGE

Number 103
January 9, 1947

Dear Mules:

A Happy and a Prosperous New Year to you all. May all your wishes and dreams come true, and may all your hopes be realized in 1947.

The Christmas season at Muhlenberg has come and gone. It was the usual happy affair here at College with the giant Colorado blue spruce that grows on the front campus again illuminated with hundreds of lights and a large white star. As Mrs. Sherwood Mercer, wife of the new Dean of the faculty, pulled the switch that lighted the tree, President Tyson reminded the audience that it was a symbol of the holiday season and a bond that unites Muhlenberg men throughout the nation and across the world. The usual pre-Christmas joint carol service was held in the chapel with the student bodies of Cedar Crest and Muhlenberg listening to an address by President Moore of Cedar Crest. The chapel choirs of both schools sang Christmas carols.

Haps and Mrs. Benfer held their usual Christmas party for the freshmen who are living in West Hall. Many students were introduced to the Pennsylvania German Belznickel when Dr. Harry Hess Reichard, perennially the campus Santa Claus, made his visit and distributed socks of candy, nuts and other treats.

Football was still in the minds of Muhlenberg people during the latter part of the month, for Eddie Sikorski was picked by Coach Ray Morrison of Temple as a member of the North squad and participated in the North-South game at Montgomery, Alabama, on December 28th. Eddie gave a good account of himself during the time he saw action, but the South, depending largely on the passing arm of Harry Gilmour of Alabama, won the contest 20-13. Two weeks before this game, Eddie had scored two touchdowns against Delaware and Phil Colella had scored one against Muhlenberg in the same game. That day they found themselves playing on the same squad.

Just one more item about football and then we'll probably lay it aside until next season. Our schedule for next season has been virtually completed and will pit the Mules against the following foes: Lafayette, Albright, Swarthmore, Temple, open, Lehigh, Gettysburg, Bucknell, Delaware and Franklin & Marshall. The Delaware game will be played in Allentown the Saturday before Thanksgiving and F. & M. will be a Turkey day tilt in Lancaster.

Since the last letter, the basketball hoopsters have won two games, defeating the University of Pennsylvania 57-50 and LaSalle 59-44. LaSalle featured a six foot nine inch center who was a bit of a problem for a short time, but the Mules showed that they are clicking in their old accustomed style. Accuracy in long shots and good work at the foul line paid off in both these games and the prospects for the rest of the season are good.

Dean Perry Fridy Kendig has joined the ranks of veterans who have decided that single blessedness is not all that it is cracked up to be. His engagement to Miss Virginia Elizabeth Gantt of Bethlehem, Pa., was announced during the holiday season.

Dean and Mrs. Harry "Haps" Benfer observed their thirtieth wedding anniversary during the Christmas holidays. Haps has recently been named to the newly created post of Director of Admissions and

TO ITS MEN WHO FOUGHT FOR FREEDOM

will be responsible for interviewing and counselling all men seeking to enter Muhlenberg and will report his findings and recommendations to the new faculty committee on admissions. He will continue as Dean of Freshmen, but will be relieved of the responsibilities of Registrar. Until a new registrar has been appointed, Paul J. Gebert, who has been Assistant Registrar, will be responsible for the academic records.

Mr. Norman Wilkinson '38, of the Social Science Department, and two of his associates in the field of history, have recently compiled a bibliography of the important books and periodicals which have been written about Pennsylvania. So much has been written about the Keystone state that it required a 565 page volume to merely list more than 6000 items.

And now for the mail bag. CORPORAL GERALD H. HALL '31 was discharged from the Army and is employed by the Veteran's Administration at Los Angeles, California. Gerry is living in Hollywood and would welcome visits from any Muhlenberg men in California.

HOWARD G. BLANK '44 was discharged in Washington, June 21, 1946, and is back at his home in Mt. Savage, Md. Howard has gone into business for himself and reports that he is doing very well.

DICK BUSBY '40 will play for the Reading team in the New Eastern Professional Basketball League this coming season.

LIEUTENANT JOHNNY BIRD '48, former basketball player who has been in service for the past two years, the last ten months of which were spent in Trinidad, plans to re-enter college next month and will make a strong bid for his old varsity position. Johnny is in excellent condition, having played basketball and baseball while in the armed forces.

MAJOR HERMAN E. KNIES '25, staff chaplain of the Middletown Air Material area, recently returned to his post from Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., where he attended a two month's course at the Army Chief of Chaplain's school. A former pastor of the Virginia Heights Lutheran Church, Roanoke, Va. before entering the Army, he served for 23 months in the European theater. Herman was recently commissioned a major in the regular army.

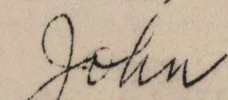
A veteran of the Pacific campaign with the Army Medical Corps, DR. WOODROW W. WENDLING '37, released from service in November, 1946, has opened his offices for the practice of medicine at New Tripoli. Woody served with the 77th Infantry division in the Marianas and Okinawa, and also was with the occupation forces of the 11th Airborne division in Japan.

Another medico to return to civilian practice, DR. KENNETH P. LAMBERT '39 has opened his offices in Kutztown. Kenny had 21 months overseas and participated in the campaigns of the Rhineland and Central Europe. After his return to the states and his release from the Army, he was appointed chief resident physician at the Reading General hospital.

You fellows who are still in the Army may be interested in some observations from CAPTAIN JOHN R. KERN, JR. '42. John is at the Air Force Separation Point, Westover Field, Mass. He says: "While it is still the policy of the recruiting stations to enlist everyone that can walk, many of the new enlistees are discharged almost immediately after it has been determined by screening tests that the men are either physically, mentally, or morally unable to perform the duties of a soldier. In other words, it is now necessary to have qualifications, in addition to being classified as a male biologically, before one can expect to draw pay from the U.S. Government." Doesn't sound much like the Army we knew, does it?

Just noticed that I'm near the bottom of the page so will cut the masterpiece short this time. I'll be back in two weeks with more news. In the meantime, I'll be looking forward to your letters.

As ever,


JOHN H. WAGNER
Alumni Secretary